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Applicant(s): Marc Tremblay and William Joy

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Application No.: 09/204,585

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December 3, 1998

Examiner: David Y. Eng

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January 10, 2005

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REPLY BRIEF (37 C.F.R. § 41.41)

This brief is in response to Examiner's Answer, mailed November 8, 2004, which sets a period for reply ending January 10, 2005 (January 8 being a Saturday). Applicants respectfully request consideration of the following in connection with the present appeal.

In the Answer, Examiner (1) states that the *summary of invention* contained in Applicant's brief is deficient, (2) states that Applicant's *statement of issues* is incorrect and (3) contests *grouping* of claims, specifically asserting that certain claims stand or fall together. In response to Appellant's Brief, Examiner has withdrawn two (of the four) previously asserted *grounds of rejection*. Appellant thanks the Examiner for clearing the appeal of extraneous issues. Finally, Examiner responds to Appellant's argument. We take, in turn, each of the issues of apparent substantive disagreement.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

Appellant has reviewed the observations in Examiner's Answer and notes that two competing usages of the term N have apparently been a source of confusion. Unfortunately, the reformulation of the expression for total number of registers proposed in the Examiner's Answer is *not* correct.